

Coins

Buying, selling; they're prices apart

By Roger Boye

Q.—YOU HAVE stated that silver dollars are selling for \$6 and up. Yet when I contact coin dealers about selling my silver dollars, I'm not offered anywhere near \$6. What gives?—V. W.

A.—The difference you note is between a dealer's "selling" and "buying" price. Dealers sell silver dollars for \$6 and up.

For example, the common date 1922 and 1923 silver dollars sell for \$6 in very fine condition and even more in better conditions. Less common date silver dollars sell for \$8, \$10, and even more, depending on date, mint mark, and condition.

However, a dealer will usually offer only \$4.50 to buy the common date silver dollars in very fine condi-

tion. This difference in price, of course, is the dealer's gross profit. The price for which a dealer sells a coin is usually at least 25 per cent more than the price the dealer paid for the coin.

acids which will "restore" the date. Those are advertised in numismatic publications.

However, a "restored date" coin is easily identifiable, and most collectors find

off because the date was one of the highest features on the coin and was not protected by other features in the design. The standing liberty quarter was redesigned slightly in 1925, and the date on standing liberty quarters made from 1925 to 1930 was protected by other features of the coin.

Q.—I WOULD LIKE to know where to go for information about ancient Roman and Greek coins.—L. R.

A.—Several books are available, as you will note by checking a coin store, book store, or library. Three titles are "Ancient Greek Coins" by Zander H. Klavans, "Roman Coins" by Harold Mattingly, and "Ancient Coins—How to Collect for Fun and Profit" by Ted G. Wear.

The dealer's selling price for a coin is at least 25 per cent more than the price paid.

Q.—WE HAVE some buffalo nickels and liberty standing quarters with the dates worn off. What can we do with coins in this condition?—A. A.

A.—Not much. It is possible to purchase

them undesirable. Thus, coins with restored dates have little numismatic value.

The dates on the buffalo nickel [1913-1938] and on the standing liberty quarter made from 1916 to 1924 wore